

THE POCAHONTAS TIMES

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CALVIN W. PRICE, EDITOR.

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A young person of average or high school intelligence asked me the other day if I fought in the Civil War. A civil question deserves a civil answer. Well, she did not get it. I was not offended because of the imputation of great age, for I have not reached that stage in life where a thing like that annoys me. I think it is all a figment anyway. I think everyone desires to be thought older than he actually is. I know that it is almost a mania with colored people. What troubled me about this come-on was that she could be so cloudy on historical matters concerning her birth place. That she had not visualized the great events that took place on her playgrounds, and those of so comparative recent dates that the farmers of the Valley are still making use of enrichment of the soil occasioned by the blood of American soldiers. It is enough to make the bread bitter. For I remember stopping by the way to watch a Potter thumping his wet clay.

And with its all-offerated Tongue. It murmured: "Gently, Brother, gently, pray!" The occasion of the remark was her effort to appear interested in a dry as dust exposition of the part that this section of the country played in that the second greatest of all wars. How when the United States blew up with a force that almost jarred the gates of Heaven; and the North put armies in the field; and to South did likewise, they all converged on Pocahontas County, and the people of these mountains took the first shock of the war very much as did Belgium in the World War. I should not blame the child so much, for with all of us the past amalgamates and the War of the Roses, the Persian wars, and General Joshua's campaign all run together in the solid past.

The way I figure it out is that I am just about the same age that Withers was when he wrote the Border Warfare about the Indian warriors west of the main Allegheny sixty years after. He had the same opportunity to serve by listening that I had concerning the Civil War. First hand information acquired before his ending became a lost art. A writer pointed out the other day that Socrates and Johnson and Ruskin had a faithful coterie of expert listeners, supporting them heroically and playing into their hands all through the time it took to speak the piece. And it is pointed out now why kind of audience is hard to find and harder to keep, and about all that conversationists can do is to talk to each other and to divide the time, a give and take affair of lengthy soliloquies delivered approximately turn and turn about.

I got wise to that long ago and took to saying it with type writers. In the instance under discussion I had broken my rule and the little lady was feigning an interest and meant to ask a helpful question. But it broke up the meeting. I pointed out that all our mutual friends that Mr. E. D. King, who was eleven years old when the war broke out and who before was ended rode with Mosby, was the youngest who could qualify in that respect. And as it was apparent another question trembled on her lips as to whether Mr. King or myself was the older, I hastily closed the conversation myself.

But the time is at hand when that war will be a sealed book. The old soldiers are getting scarce. They lived beautiful lives. I have seen the animosity flicker and die out and the veterans become cordial with each other. "For some we loved, the loveliest and the best That from his Vintage rolling Time has pressed, Have drunk their Cup a-Round or two before, And one by one crept silently to rest." This part of the country is about to be developed by great tourist sight seeing roads. James A. Moffet came here about seven years ago. The year before he died. He remarked that this country was far ahead of anything else in the country in the way of natural scenery that if the time ever came that good roads could be built through these mountains that all the world would come to see them. At that time it seemed hopeless for roads were purely local affairs but it came to pass that we changed the constitution and mortgaged the future. The steam shovel has changed the face of the country, and in a few years the children of Israel will be skyhooking through here dry shod, and if by that time there is anyone who gives a damn about the winning of the west, the Revolutionary war, or the putting down of the Rebellion, it would be well to have a country as rich historically as this one to have the record so plainly marked that even he who runs may read. There is, hardly a mile in this mountain country that has not been the scene some great event in the history of the country.

Anything that can take the mind away from past regret and future fears is not to be despised in the scheme of life. Recently I have been refreshing my memory as to campaigns in this county in the Civil War. The residents of this county had two strenuous periods. The first was the campaign of 1861, when the armies marched and counter marched over these roads, and two battles were fought in the upper end of the county, the battle of Greenbrier River and the battle of the Top of Allegheny. That year the Confederates had all the best of it and they invested and maintained control of the county pretty much until the 6th day of November, 1863, when they left and have not been back since as an army of occupation. Court adjourned in 1861 until the next regular term which was to meet in 1865.

In the first year of the war, Gen. R. E. Lee was here in person and he was the outstanding personality, and in 1863, Gen. Averell, of the Union army, was the great personage. Gen. Lee arrived here in July, 1861. The Union Army had dug in at Elkwater, on Tygart's Valley River after the battles of Rich Mountain, Laurel Hill, and Carricks Ford, which campaign of fighting ended July 13th. At Elkwater were about nine thousand Union soldiers, with Clarksburg and Grafton as their base of supplies. The reason of this great force, (about as large an army as could be handled in the trough like valleys of the Alleghenies) standing on the defensive was the two Confederate armies in Pocahontas county. A great camp had been established on the White Farm, then Herold's, near Minnehaha Springs and the Huntersville and Warm Springs pike called Camp Northwest. In July Gen. Loring occupied that camp with eighty-five hundred men composed of three Tennessee regiments, Colomels Maney, Hutton, and Savage; Mumford's battalion of Virginia State Regulars; 18th Virginia, Col. Campbell; W. H. F. Lee's cavalry; Gillian's Virginia infantry regiment; Lee's sixth North Carolina; Burk's Virginia infantry; a regiment of Georgia infantry; two batteries of artillery commanded by Mayne and Stanley. At the same time Gen. H. R. Jackson was encamped at Marlinton with six thousand Confederates as follows: 12th Georgia, Col. Johnston; 1st Georgia, Col. Ramsey, three Virginia regiments, Col. Scott, Fulkerson, and Baldwin; one Arkansas infantry regiment, Col. Rust; Anderson's and Shoemaker's batteries and Major Jackson's cavalry. These troops are set out in this detail for as far as I know they have not been listed for local publications heretofore. Gen. Reynolds commanded the forces at Elkwater, and the two sides were planning a great battle. This was just on the eve of the first battle of Bull Run, July 21, 1861, when thirty thousand Confederates under Beauregard defeated forty thousand Union soldiers under McDowell. It was at this time that Gen. R. E. Lee got his first step up. It has been a great question why Lee was put over Loring, when Loring had out ranked him in the service, both in the Union service and in the Confederate. It is probable that there being two armies in Pocahontas County camped within ten miles of each other that neither Gen. Loring nor Gen. H. R. Jackson could be preferred over the other and therefore a third man was selected with instructions to consolidate the two armies and march on to Clarksburg and Grafton. Gen. R. E. Lee joined his command at Marlinton in July and spent the first night in a tent in the Civil War at this place. The day that he arrived he was riding horseback on the road above the bridge along the Sa Mill Meadow (Riverside annex) and it was here that he froze a soldier. Woods Price's home was at this place. He was a senator at Washington College, and had cut commencement and the examinations in part, though he had gone far enough in the finals to win the Robinson orator's medal. He went back just fifty years after and got his diploma and the medal. He was in the service and he thought it fit and proper to welcome the distinguished general to our fair community, so when the lonely general had passed up the road the young Confederate full of enthusiasm and beans spurred up and overtook the General and told him how glad he was to see him, but that old warrior just glared at him and never said a word. When Lee took command he marched the two armies to the long grassy slope that lies between the Gatewood mansion and the top of Middle Mountain close to the Randolph County line, and prepared to sweep out of his way the federal forces under Reynolds some twelve or fifteen miles north. The strategy seemed to give Lee the next move on the checker-board of war, and it was to send a part of his force under Loring to the Staunton & Parkersburg pike across Cheat bridge and when he should have broken through there to assail Reynolds on the rear left flank, while Lee brought his army north on the Marlins Bottom and Huttonsville turnpike, but this plan was unworkable because the federals said that Loring should not pass and he was not able to pass. The battle staged was never fought. There was a great scourge of typhoid in the Big Springs camp that summer. The troops were green and not skilled in the art of camping. The old timers say that in the fall there came the biggest night of rain that they ever saw and that in the morning both armies were falling back in great haste and disorder, with drowning Confederates in Elk river, and drowning Union soldiers in Tygart's Valley River. The activities of this year 1861, culminated in the battle of the Top of Allegheny, December 13th. And the Confederates controlled this valley so much so that in nearly all the plans for a new state to be carved out of Virginia, Pocahontas and Greenbrier counties were left out, and only got in at the last moment in the final and successful plan. The year of 1862 was comparatively peaceful in the valley of the Greenbrier, so far as any clashes between the regular forces were concerned, but Washington was paying attention to the Western Waters for the Baltimore & Ohio railroad was moving the powers for the creation of a new state and the fact that the mountains were occupied by Confederate forces greatly contributed to the success of their armies in the Valley and beyond. So they sent Averell, and he having accomplished the task that was given him to do and covered himself with an imperishable glory, subdued all of the mountains between May 16, 1863, and September 23, 1864, when he was summarily removed from command in favor of another general, and Averell wrote a most indignant letter Gen. Sheridan, whose order relieved him, charging rank favoritism which "trampling upon my record and all military courtesy and justice, consigned me to the ignominy of idleness." I did not come upon this till lately

and I was of the same opinion as Averell that the seat warmers in Washington had got him. Averell was the son of a farmer who had cleared his own land. Averell taught school at the age of sixteen, went to West Point, graduated in 1855, led his class in horsemanship. Served in at least twenty five battles with the Navajo Indians, was wounded and mentioned in general orders several times for gallantry in action. He had orders to subdue the mountains. He took the infantry that he found and put them on horse back and after that he was here and there and everywhere. His program was interrupted as the first thing he had to do with his flying squadrons was to harass Gen. Lee who was getting back from his trip after supplies in Pennsylvania. He was detained around Winchester until August 5th, when he worked as far south as the White Sulphur Springs and fought a drawn battle at Dry Creek or Rocky Gap, and he got to Beverly August 31, 1863, in good order. September and October were spent in training and sending out scouting parties, and on November 1 he moved southward again and it was on this trip that he fought the battle of Droop Mountain, in this county, which was the most important battle from the standpoint of troops engaged, slaughter, and results that has ever been fought on the Western Waters, with the possible exception of Point Pleasant in 1774, an occurrence that many historians place as one of the decisive battles of the world. It was on the Droop Mountain trip that Averell put the Confederates out of the Greenbrier Valley and after that most of what we did to him in these parts was to fire and fall back. On that expedition Averell's army was made up of the following troops, all mounted: Twenty-eighth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, Col. A. Moor; Tenth West Virginia Volunteer Infantry, Col. T. M. Harris; Second West Virginia Mounted Infantry, Col. A. Scott; Third West Virginia Mounted Infantry, Col. F. W. Thompson; Eighth West Virginia Mounted Infantry, Col. J. H. Onley; Fourteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry, Col. J. N. Schoonmaker; Gibson's Battalion and Batteries B and G; First West Virginia Light Artillery, they marched by Cheat bridge, Liberty, and Greenbank to Huntersville where they arrived on November 4, 1863. Here he heard that a regiment of Confederates six hundred strong under Col. Wm. Thompson were camped at Marlins Bottom. This was noon Wednesday. Averell sent two regiments down the Beaver Creek road to the ford at the mouth of Beaver Creek to cut off Thompson at Mill Point, and two regiments and a battery down the pike by Knapps Creek to encircle the Confederates, out by nine o'clock that night a dispatch was received from Col. Schoonmaker to the effect that Col. Thompson had beaten him to it and had joined Jackson in the Levels. Averell got the rest of his troops under way about three a. m. from Huntersville and by eight o'clock a. m. he arrived in Mill Point, and found that his enemy was retiring. Averell says he was thirty-four miles from Lewisburg at that time. He was to join a force marching to meet him, and Averell decided that if he forced the Confederates through to Lewisburg that it would endanger his allies, and that it would be better to go slow, so no pressing forward was done that day, and the Confederates withdrew from the open fields in the Levels and took a stand on the brow of the Droop Mountain overlooking the Levels the point that the pike crosses. They were drawn up to give battle, and the armies lay that night in plain view of each other's camp fires. Next day was battle day, Friday the 6th. On the mountain, the Confederate forces consisted of the Fourteenth Virginia Cavalry, Twenty-Second Virginia Infantry, Derriek's Battalion, Edgar's Battalion, Jackson's Brigade, and seven pieces of artillery in all about four thousand men. Schoonmaker and his Pennsylvania troops were ordered to go to the side of the mountain next to the mouth of Locust Creek and make a feint of attacking the Confederates from the east. Col. Moor was given the main business of winning the battle and was sent with 1175 men out along the Lobelia road before daylight. They got to the top of Droop mountain the crest of which is even and unbroken for miles and this crest led them into conflict with the Confederates, in the most severe rifle fire, at 1:45 p. m. Averell sent all the rest of his troops then up the face of the mountain obliquely, but before they had arrived the Confederates had been driven from their temporary breast-works and were in headlong retreat. The battle was over at 3 p. m. The Confederate forces were commanded by Gen. Echols, and he retired to Dublin, Virginia, where he was joined by Imboden. Averell reached Lewisburg by Saturday at 2 p. m. and there found General Duffie and army from the Kanawha section waiting him with some prisoners they had captured retreating from Droop Mountain. Averell went back by Mountain Grove and Hightown, through Petersburg, West Virginia, to New Creek, in Hampshire county, from which place in the month of December he made a dive into the heart of the Confederacy and destroyed the stores at Salem, Virginia, and was able to extricate his army without serious loss. It is such heroic facts as gathered and retailed by him that lead young persons to think that I must have been present and acting. "And we that now make merry in the Room Ourself must we beneath the Couch Descend—ourselves to make a Couch—for whom?"

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For Sale Five Herford bulls, full bred, registered, 1 year old. 2 black polled bulls, 1 year old. 1 Guersey bull, full bred, can be registered. Apply to J. H. Mackey, Monterey, Va.

Notice My wife, Mary J. Fitzpatrick, having left my home without cause, this is to notify all parties that I will be responsible for no debts she may contract. This 25th of June 1923. William Fitzpatrick

BATHING and BOATING Afternoons and Evenings. at POCAHONTAS COUNTY FAIR GROUNDS Picnic Parties Welcomed Anyone wanting a picnic basket prepared for Sunday or holidays, please notify J. HERBERT VAUGHAN, Marlinton, in advance. Gates Open at 1 o'clock p. m.

MOTOR SERVICE TO ALLEGHENY CLUB Round Trip to Minnehaha Springs \$3.50 Phone the Allegheny Club, at Minnehaha Springs.

Notice--Belled Cows It is against the law for cows to run at large in the town of Marlinton with bells on. The noise in the night time disturbing sick and nervous people. R. K. BURNS, Chief of Police.

ESTRAY HORSE A black mare has been at the Uriah Heverer place, near Arboreale, since about June 1. Looks to be 11 years old. Owner can have same by paying cost of keep and cost of adv. \$1. adv.

NOTICE This is to notify all persons concerned that QUEEN IS MY dog. BUSTER ESKRIDGE.

Money to Loan at 5-1-2 percent The Pocahontas County Farm Loan Association of Marlinton, Pocahontas County, West Virginia, has money to loan to farmers on farm land, on easy terms. Call on the undersigned and fill out an application blank. P. T. WARD, Sec.-Treas.

IF IT'S INSURANCE YOU WANT. SEE F. M. SYDNOR, Manager HUNTER & ECHOLS INSURANCE AGENCY INC Marlinton, West Virginia.

Trustees' Sale of Valuable Real and Personal Property Pursuant to authority vested in them by two deeds of trust, the one executed by J. W. Yeager and Pearl Yeager, his wife, to L. M. McClintic, Trustee, dated November 23, 1917, to secure the First National Bank of Marlinton, West Virginia, in the sum of \$3,000.00, of record in the office of the clerk of the county court of Pocahontas County, West Virginia, in trust deed book number 10 at page 318, and the other deed of trust executed by J. W. Yeager and Pearl Yeager, his wife, to Andrew Price, Trustee, to secure J. J. Echols in the sum of \$250.00, dated January 1, 1923, of record in said office in trust deed book number 12 at page 394, the undersigned trustees on

Building Material Yellow pine, floor and ceiling, popular siding, casings and trimmings for inside and out. Door and window frames made to order, also dimension work. R. S. JORDAN, Marlinton, W. Va.

For Sale Good gray horse, wagon and outfit. Horse will weigh 1350, sound and safe. Apply at once Henry Simmons. Marlinton, W. Va.

Notice Notice is hereby given that I have sold my meat business in the Town of Marlinton to S. Smith & Son who will continue the business. All persons indebted to me will please prepare to settle at once. R. H. McElwee June 4, 1923

For Sale 1.4 mile of Dunmore, W. Va. 3 room house, large blacksmith shop, 5 1-4 acres of land, 16 or 17 fine apple trees bearing; close to churches, stores and school, on a rural mail route, in a good neighbor hood, and water on the place. Will sell right for cash. If interested call on J. A. Hively Dunmore, W. Va.

For Sale 20 head of heavy draft horses 6 ponies, 42 to 50 inches high, 6 mules, 50 inches high. W. Va. Pulp & Paper Co. Cass, W. Va.

Farm For Sale 47 1-2 acres of good level land near Hillsboro, 6 room house and plenty of water. Price \$3,000; one third cash and balance on good terms. WALTER COOPER, Hillsboro, W. Va.

Team For Sale One grey team, 6 yrs. old, weight 2,000 lbs. broke to the woods, and farm. Good hillside. Also 1 bay horse, 1450 lbs. 9 yrs. old, all sound and good workers. Austin Sharp Frost, W. Va.

Yearlings For Sale 12 head, 6 steers and 6 heifers, beef stock, and good cattle for sale. 1 am short on grass. Apply to Willie Shradler R. F. D. box 24, Huntersville, W. Va.

Pocahontas Junk Co. Marlinton, W. Va. -Buyers- Scrap iron, coppers, brass, waste paper, metals, rags, bones, beef hides, calf skins, live poultry and all waste materials. TED McELWEE, Prop. Marlinton, W. Va.

Executors Notice All persons having claims against the estate of the late James Hultz, are notified to present the same, proven according to law to the undersigned executors. All persons indebted to said estate will please prepare to settle at once. This 16th of June, 1923. J. W. HULTZ, SALLIE JONES, Executors estate of James Hultz, deceased. For Sale One nine room dwelling house newly painted, and fine lot, good outbuilding, best of water at the kitchen door. In the center of Greenbank on main road. A fine place for keeping boarders for the high school, etc. If interested come and see the property, or write me. G. W. COWGER Greenbank, W. Va.

N. M. LOCKRIDGE, Attorney-at-Law, Huntersville, W. Va. Prompt and careful attention given to all legal work. A. P. EDGAR, Attorney-at-Law, Marlinton, W. Va. Courts: Pocahontas and adjoining counties and the Supreme Court of Appeals. F. RAYMOND HILL, Attorney-at-Law, Marlinton, W. Va. Will practice in the courts of Pocahontas and Greenbrier counties, and in the Supreme Court of Appeals of West Virginia.

ANDREW PRICE Attorney-at-Law Marlinton, W. Va. W. A. BRATTON, Attorney-at-Law, Marlinton, W. Va. Prompt and careful attention given to all legal business.

M. C. McNEEL, Attorney-at-Law, Marlinton, W. Va. Will practice in the courts of Pocahontas and adjoining counties, and in the Court of Appeals of the state of West Virginia. L. M. McCLINTIC, Attorney-at-Law, Marlinton, W. Va. Will practice in the courts of Pocahontas and adjoining counties and in the Supreme Court of Appeals.

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Hogs For Sale 25 grade Poland China and Berkshire pigs, 7 and 8 weeks old \$5 each. 15 thoroughbred Poland China pigs, 5 weeks old, will keep 10 weeks old, \$8 without register papers and \$10 with papers. 8 good fresh milk cows. W. McClintic Marlinton, W. Va.

FOR RENT—An eight room house, near Green Bank, convenient to church, store, post office and high school. Apply to J. P. Wooddell, Green Bank, W. Va. FOR SALE—Poland-China pigs eligible for registration, of the Great Baster-Claudian breeding—Geo. W. Cleek, Warm Springs, Va.



FISK TIRES Time to Re-tire? (See Face) C. J. Richardson Marlinton, W. Va.